

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. Canceled.

17. (Currently amended) A ~~metal~~ sealed shipping container which
- (1) ~~(i)~~ has a capacity of at least 40 m³,
 - (2) ~~(ii)~~ contains ~~can be sealed around~~ a respiring biological material, ~~and,~~
 - (3) is ~~when~~ sealed around the respiring biological material, and
 - (4) comprises
 - (a) an exterior surface,
 - (b) an inner atmosphere within the sealed container which surrounds the biological material, and
 - (c) a module which
 - (i) when the container is not sealed, can be removed from the container and placed in another container or replaced in the same container, and
 - (ii) comprises a closed chamber which comprises an internal atmosphere control member (ACM) ~~which has~~ , an inlet for gas and an outlet for gas, the ACM having a surface area greater than 0.65 m² and comprising ~~(i)~~ a first surface which is in direct contact with the inner atmosphere, and ~~(ii)~~ a second surface which is not in direct contact with the inner atmosphere, ~~and~~ is not part of the exterior surface of the sealed container, and is in direct contact with a second atmosphere inside the chamber.
 - ~~, and (iii) — has a surface area greater than 0.65 m².~~
18. (Previously presented) A container according to claim 17 which comprises pressure-generating means for supplying gas to the second surface of

the ACM and a metering device for changing the rate at which gas can be supplied to the second surface of the ACM.

19-21. Canceled.

22. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 17 ~~20~~ wherein the chamber is a rectangular parallelepiped which comprises two major faces and four minor faces; and in which at least one of the major faces includes an ACM, a first minor face includes at least one inlet for incoming gases, and a second minor face opposite the first minor face includes at least one outlet for outgoing gases.

23. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 17 ~~20~~ wherein the chamber comprises (i) a generally cylindrical surface which comprises the ACM, and (ii) two opposite end faces, one of the end faces including at least one inlet for an incoming atmosphere and the other of the end faces including at least one outlet for an outgoing atmosphere.

24. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 17 wherein the ~~container~~ ~~contains a~~ respiring biological material ~~which~~ is packed in a plurality of ACM-containing sealed inner containers.

25. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 17 wherein the module ~~which~~ comprises two or more ACMs, at least one of the ACMs being a selective ACM and at least one of the ACMs being a nonselective ACM.

26. (Previously presented) A container according to claim 25 wherein the selective ACM has an R ratio of at least 2.5, and the nonselective ACM comprises a single relatively large perforation or a plurality of relatively small perforations.

27. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 17 ~~wherein 20~~ ~~which comprises a first chamber comprising an~~ the ACM having has a first R ratio of 1 to 2.3 and the module further comprises a second chamber comprising an ACM having a second R ratio which is higher than ~~in~~ the first R ratio ~~and is 1.5 to 5.~~

28. (New) A container according to claim 17 wherein the inner atmosphere contains at least 3 % by volume of CO₂ and the second atmosphere contains less than 3 % by volume of CO₂; and the second atmosphere contains at least 15% by volume of O₂ and the inner atmosphere contains at least 15% by volume of O₂.
29. (New) A container according to claim 28 wherein the rate at which the second atmosphere flows over the second surface of the ACM is controlled by one or more sensors which measure the concentration of at least one gas in the inner atmosphere.
30. (New) A container according to claim 28 wherein the second atmosphere flows through the chamber at a rate of 5-500 cfm.
31. (New) A container according to claim 28 wherein the rate at which the second atmosphere flows through the chamber is 0.0025 to 0.25 ft³ per in² of ACM exposed to the second atmosphere.
32. (New) A container according to claim 17 wherein the chamber is selected from
- (i) a rectangular parallelepiped which comprises two major faces and four minor faces; and in which at least one of the major faces includes an ACM, a first minor face includes at least one inlet for the second atmosphere, and a second minor face opposite the first minor face includes at least one outlet for an outgoing atmosphere, and
 - (ii) a chamber comprising a generally cylindrical surface which comprises the ACM, and two opposite end faces, one of the end faces including at least one inlet for the second atmosphere and the other of the end faces including at least one outlet for an outgoing atmosphere.
33. (New) A container according to claim 17 wherein the ACM comprises a microporous film having a polymeric coating thereon.

34. (New) A method of making a shipping container as defined in claim 17, the method comprising

- (A) placing the respiring biological material in the container;
- (B) after step (A), placing the module in the container;
- (C) connecting the inlet of the module to a conduit which is connected to one or more sources of gas;
- (D) connecting the outlet of the module to a gas disposal means; and
- (E) sealing the container..

35. (New) A method according to claim 34 wherein the respiring biological material is green bananas.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35 wherein the module comprises two or more ACMs, at least one of the ACMs being a selective ACM, and at least one of the ACMs being a nonselective ACM.